

Serial No. : 10/507,042
Filed : September 7, 2004

IN THE DRAWINGS

The applicant has submitted concurrently herewith a request for approval of drawing changes in which a "Prior Art" label is added to Figure 7 and Figure 9. The applicant has also submitted replacement sheets for the amended drawings.

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REMARKS

In the office action, the examiner objected to the drawings on the ground that Figures 8 and 9 lack a legend indicating the prior art. In the specification, the applicant incorrectly indicates Figure 8 as showing a conventional technology. In fact, Figure 7 shows the conventional technology rather than Figure 8. Accordingly, the applicant has submitted concurrently herewith a request for approval of drawing changes in which a "Prior Art" legend is added to Figures 7 and 9 as marked by red ink. The applicant has also submitted replacement sheets for the amended drawings.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to on the ground that it exceeds 150 words and includes legal phraseology "comprises". Accordingly, the applicant has amended the abstract of the disclosure to correct the informalities.

The disclosure is objected to on the ground that it includes reference to claim numbers. Accordingly, the applicant has amended the specification to correct the informalities. In this opportunity, the applicant has reviewed the whole specification amended the descriptions therein to correct wording errors and to clarify the invention. This is to verify that no new matter has been introduced by the amendment.

The title of the invention is objected to on the ground that it is not descriptive. Accordingly, the applicant has amended

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the title of the invention to be clearly indicative of the invention defined in the claims.

The examiner objected to Claims 1-2 and 7-8 because it is not clear what "it" represents. Accordingly, the applicant has amended Claims 1-2 and 7-8 to correct the informalities.

In the office action, the examiner rejected Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art disclosed in the instant application with reference to Figure 8. As briefly noted above with respect to the amendment in the drawings, the applicant inadvertently referred to Figure 8 as showing the conventional technology while, in reality, Figure 8 shows the detailed structure of the second embodiment of the present invention. The structure of the conventional semiconductor test apparatus is shown in Figure 7. In other words, the applicant has intended to describe the conventional technology with reference to Figure 7 rather than Figure 8.

For example, in the specification, from page 1, line 26 to page 3, line 1, the description regarding the background art includes reference to a conventional LSI tester 110, a level comparator 111, a pattern comparator 112, a flip-flop 121. Such components are found only in Figure 7 but not in Figure 8. In contrast, the description from page 65, line 16 to page 69, line 28 regarding the second embodiment of the present invention, includes reference to a jitter detection circuit 60, registers 41a-41n, a subtraction circuit 61, a jitter limit value register

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62, and a comparison judgement circuit 63. Such components are found only in Figure 8 but not in Figure 7. Therefore, there is a clear error in the specification that the applicant has inversely labeled Figure 7 and Figure 8. Accordingly, the applicant has amended the specification to correct the clear error. As noted above, the applicant has also amend the drawing to add the "Prior Art" label to Figures 7 and 9.

As explained above, because Figure 8 shows the second embodiment of the present invention rather than the conventional technology and the clear error has been correct by the amendment noted above, the applicant believes that rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) is no longer applicable to the present invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that Claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance, and accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES

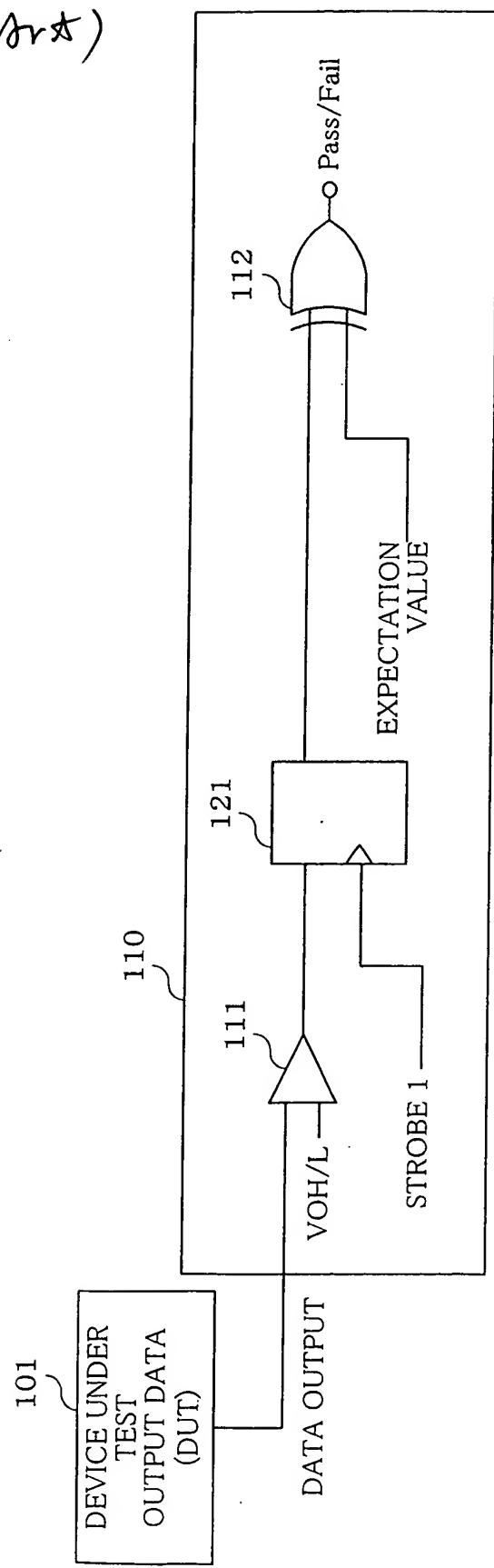
Dated: 12/7/05

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FIG.7
(Prior Art)





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FIG.9
(Prior Art)

